Linking of Godavari and Krishna Waters

*348. SHRI RAMACHANDRAIAH RUMANDLA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to link Godavari and Krishna Waters to provide drinking water facility to hundreds of villages besides irrigating thousands of acres of land in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the reasons for not clearing the project pending for long; and

(c) by when the project would be cleared ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) to (c) The erstwhile Ministry of Irrigation (now Ministry of Water Resources) and Central Water Commission had in 1980 formulated a National Perspective Plan for Water Resources Development which envisages interlinkages between various Peninsular rivers and Himalyan rivers for transfer of water from surplus basins to water deficit basins for optimum utilization of water resources. Under Peninsular component of National Perspective Plan linking of river Godavari with Krishna is envisaged through three separate links for providing irrigation benefits and enhanced drinking water supply to the water short area. National Water Development Agency (NWDA), established to carry out studies, surveys and investigations of National Perspective Plan, has prepared feasibility report for one of these links. Work on the feasibility reports for the remaining two links is in progress. Clearance of the project for interlinking shall arise only when the Detailed Project Reports are prepared and submitted after the consensus is reached among the concerned States.

Upgradation of Amritsar Airport

*350. SARDAR GURCHARAN SINGH TOHRA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the progress made so far to upgrade Amritsar Airport to International standards;

(b) the amount spent so far; and

(c) the amount likely to be spent during the current year ?